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THE GREATEST DRAMA OF THE AGE

THE GREAT BORDER PLAY, ENTITLED

THE RESCUE OF MY PARTNER,

WRITTEN BY

JOSEPH A. BECKERT and JACOB C. SMITH.

The date supposed to be the year 1759.

Place—Silver Bar City, Colorado.

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PROPRIETOR.....

MANAGER.....

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CHARACTERS IN THE DRAMA:

HARRY GOLD,	By
GEORGE WOODWARD,	"
JAMES SARAGE,	"
ONE EYED SAM,	"
PETER KRAUT,	"
MISS EMMA WELLWORTH,	"
MISS NELLIE CARSON,	"
THOMAS WELTRON,	"
JACOB TELFORN,	"

ACT FIRST—The home of Miss Emma Wellsworth.

ACT SECOND—Frealside Garden.

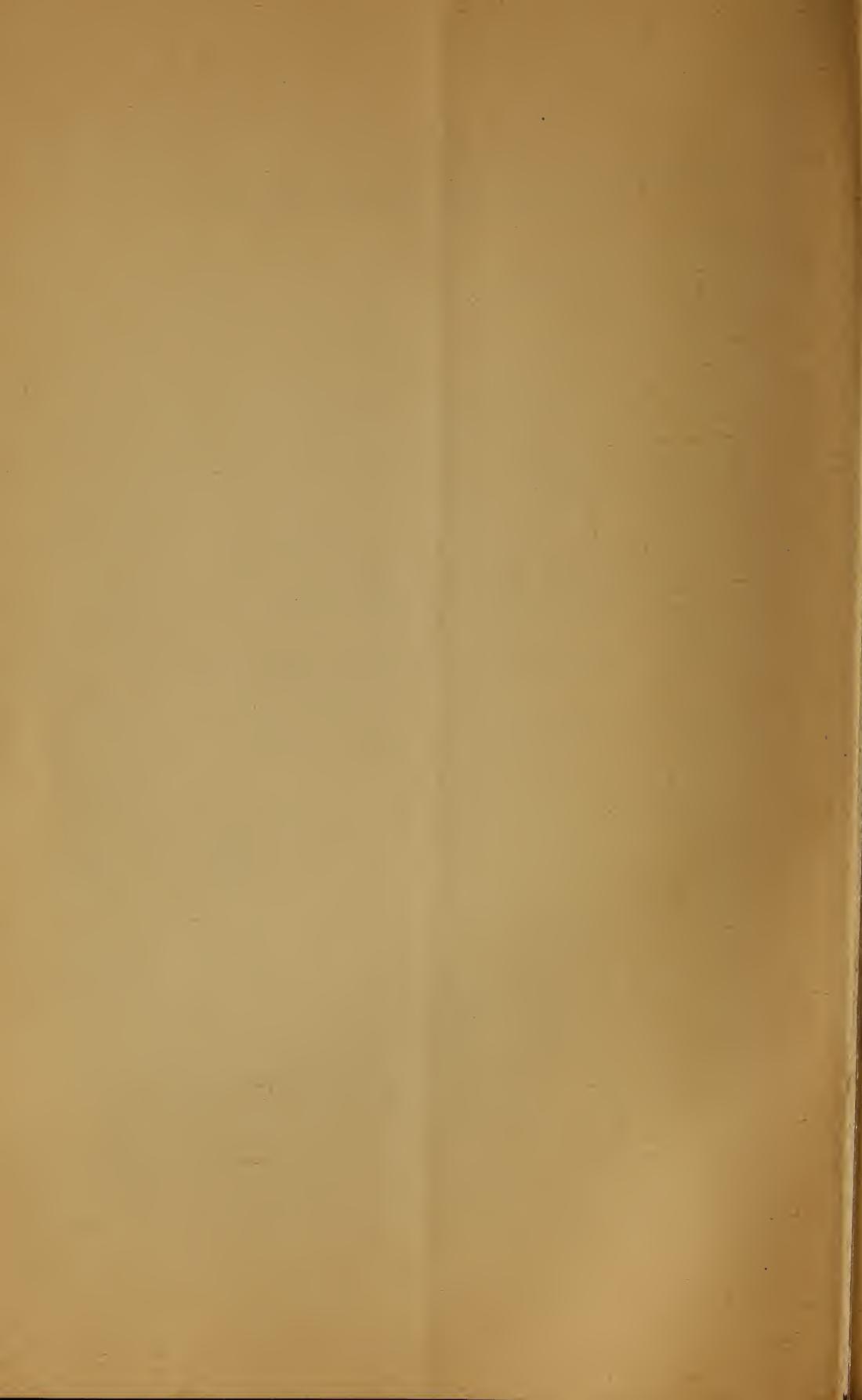
ACT THIRD—Brozes' Mountain, two miles away from Bervon town.

ACT FOURTH—Scene First—The Village of the Scouts.

Scene Second—Nelkons Woods.

FIRST ACT—JAMES SARAGE.

As soon as the curtain goes up Harry and Emma are sitting in the room speaking quietly to each other. Then James comes in, points to the house and says, I wonder if this is the place where the young lady lives who I would like to be in love with. I got a idea how to get in love with her. I'll wait until her sweetheart goes out, and then I'll go in and speak to her about it; if she would only come with me we would be happy; then walks to the side. Then Harry and Emma comes out of the house and walks about six steps, then kiss each other, and then part; then Emma walks to the door, James stops her, walks up to her and says, Good-morning miss, its a very nice morning. Emma answers. Oh nothing, I come here for that purpose, that I want you to be mine. Emma answers. Yes, mine. Emma answers. But you must. Emma answers. Well, I'll see you again, on his way going out. Emma answers. Well, are you ready to go now. Emma answers. I want you to give me her in my power, if not I'll have your life; you know me. Harry answers. I am a wicked man, the tough of the hill, do you know me now? Good by, I'll see you again and don't you forget it. Then he goes out. Harry speaks to himself. Comes in mad and says, Oh if I would only see him now I would take revenge. George answers. He pulls out his knife and says in a mad voice, I'll take blood. George answers.



FIRST ACT—MISS EMMA WELLSWORTH.

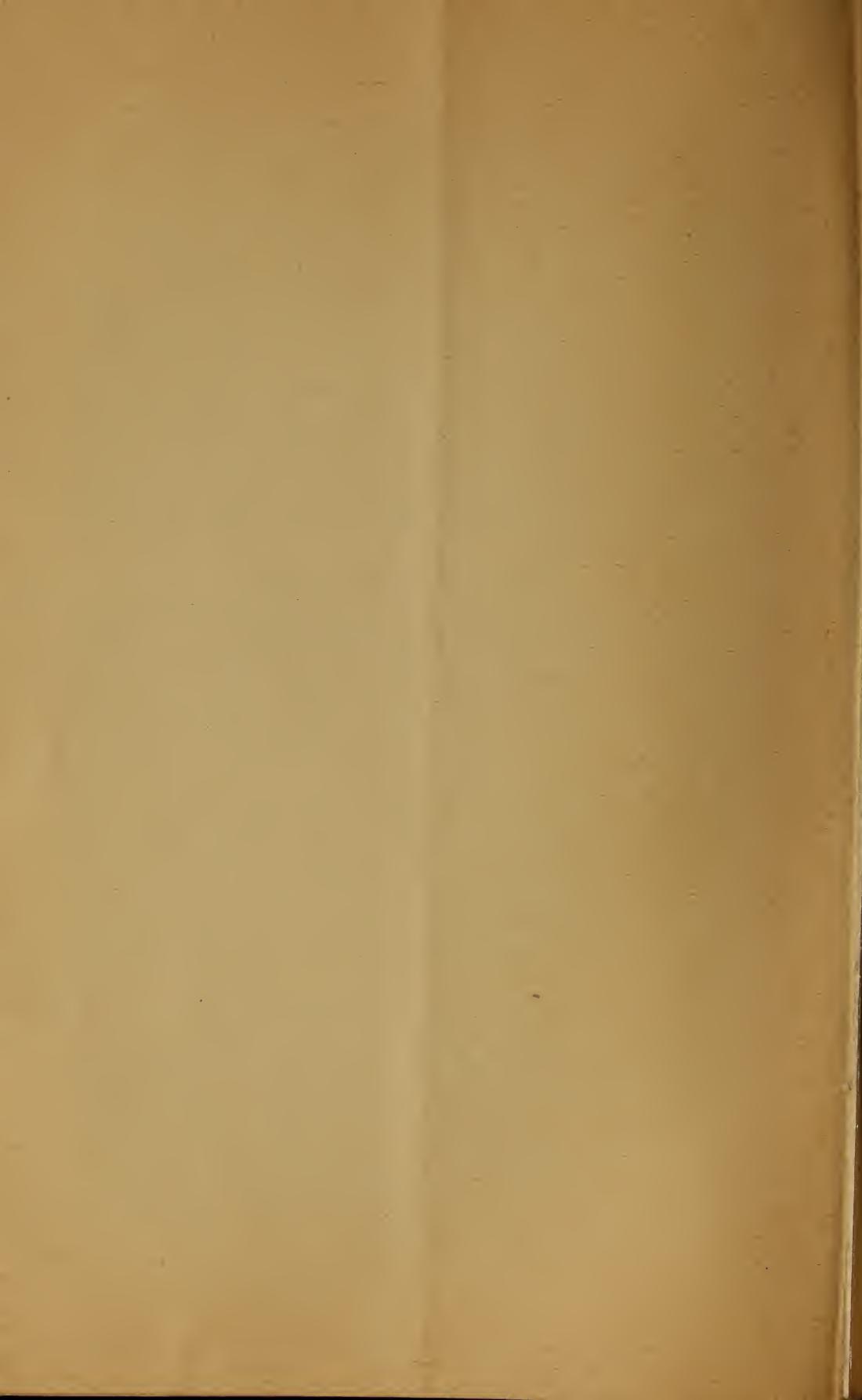
She makes a queer look at him and says, Well what have you got against it? James answers. What be yours. James answers. That cannot be. If I hadn't a sweetheart I would think about it, but beings I have one I don't think that I will part with him. James answers. I must not—not while I can help it. James answers. Well you can see me now. Then she goes in and says to herself, Well the idea of that man, wants me to leave Harry and go with him. Oh no, I would'nt do that for all the world. Harry answers. Oh, Harry, there was a young man here trying to take me away from you. He told me that I would be happy if I would come with him. Harry answers. Oh, no, I do not. Harry answers. Yes, if I see him, I will surely show him to you. Then he told me that he would see me again. Then James comes walking out, knocks at the door, then Emma looks around, grabs Harry by the arm and says, Oh, hide there he comes. Then Harry stands to aside, Emma goes over to the door and opens it and James comes in and speaks. No I am not. Then she goes out madly. Harry speaks.

FIRST ACT—HARRY GOLD.

Harry comes in, makes a laugh, and says, Well I heard that there is a young man trying to cut me out of my sweetheart, but I hope not; then goes over and knocks at the door; Emma opens it for him, then he goes in. Emma answers. Well is that impossible? Don't you know who the young man was. Emma answers. Will you show him to me if you see him? Emma answers. Harry walks over to James and says in a mad voice, Well, who are you and what do you want here? James answers. What! have my life? no not yet, I aint afraid of no man, because I have assistance when I need it. Now tell me who you are. James answers. I wonder what that man means; then he stands there for a few moments, then his partner comes in and speaks. Yes partner, there is harm near, but I hope that I'll get through. George answers. It's about Emma, there was a man here told me that I must give Emma to him, or he'll take my life. George answers. Then Harry goes over to his partner, shakes hands with him, and says, All right, partner, stick to you word; well I guess I'll have to go out and see where Emma is. I'll be in again. George answers.

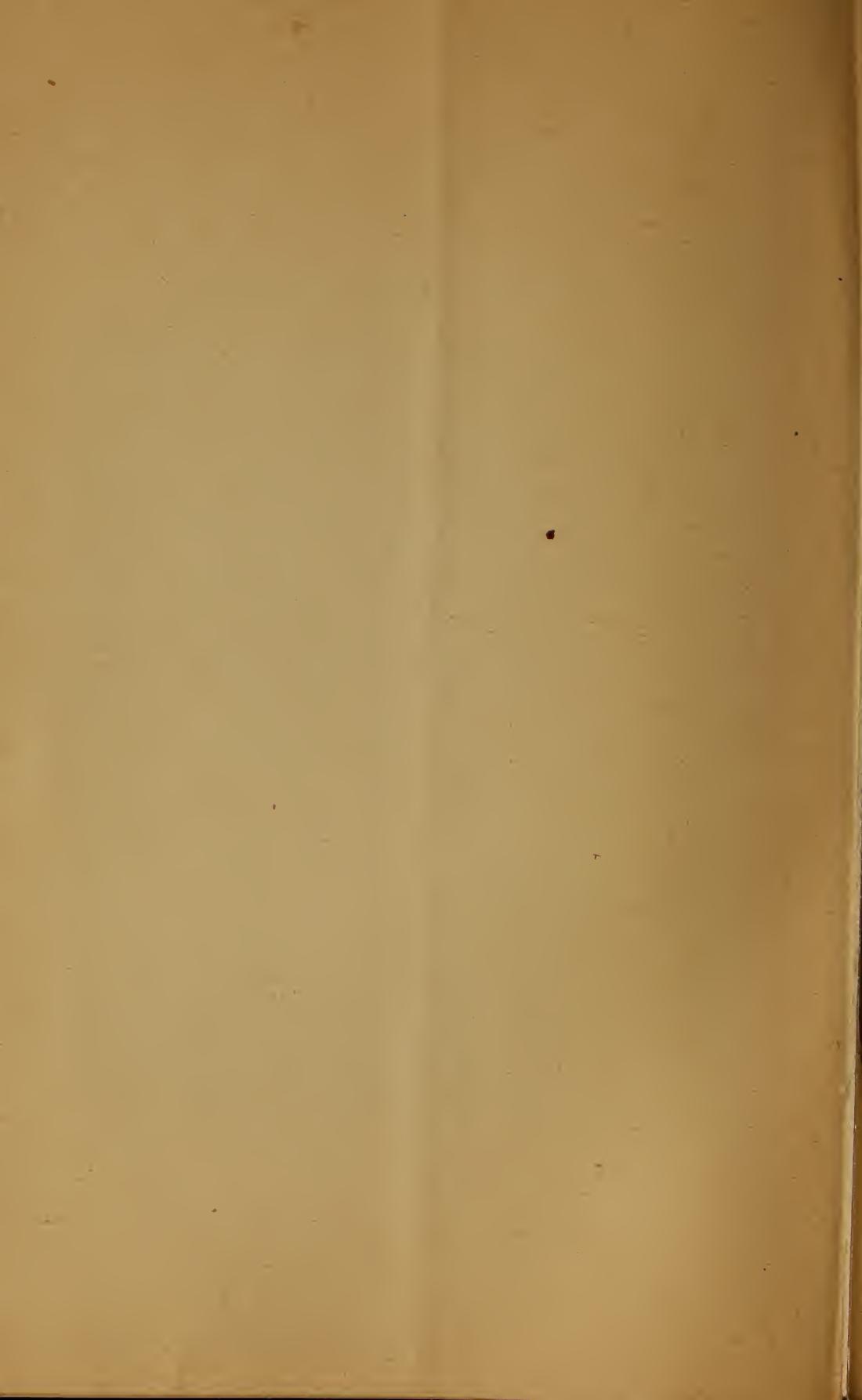
FIRST ACT—GEORGE WOODWARD.

George comes in and says, Well I wish I could only see my partner, looks around, and says, What! there he is, that's him. Why, partner what is the meaning of all this, you standing there so sad. Is there any harm done. Harry answers. Oh no partner, he should not take your life while I am around. If there is any danger I'll be with you. Harry answers. All right partner. Then Harry goes out. Then George says to himself, if my partner is to die I am to die with him. Then James comes in. James says, What would you take from him. James answers, George pulls out his two revolvers and says, not yet you coward, then the curtain goes down.



SECOND ACT—GEORGE WOODWARD.

As soon as the curtain goes up, George comes out and says, Oh it's a splendid morning, but I feel so queer, I don't know what is the cause of it. I wonder if that little excitement that I was in yesterday is the cause of it. I don't hope so. Well I guess I'll sit down somewhere and take a rest, then looks around, sees a bench, he goes over and sits down, then says, Oh I feel so tired I can almost fall to sleep; then sits there for a few moments; then falls to sleep. Then Sam comes in with a false beard on and says to himself in a mad voice. Sam speaks. Then George gets up and says how do you do. Sam speaks. No I can't tell you nothing, because I am a stranger around this place myself. Sam speaks. Oh no, I am too tired; I was on the road travelling for the last week back. Sam answers. I come from the far west. Sam answers. He says in an angry voice, I am, but the reason I did I will tell you. [They play low music.] Then George says, my partner is in love with a young lady and that coward was trying to take her away from him. He will not and shall not take her away from him while I am around, not while I have got a bit of strength in me; then he holds up his hand and says, I'll tell you the God's truth, that he sha'n't have her. (The music stops.) Sam answers. He points to himself and says in a mad voice, I'll stop him if its to cost my life, so I'll go now, give him my regards of what I told you. He walks for about four steps on his way of going out. Sam speaks. George says in a mad voice, yes I am the very man if there is any revenge to be taken from my partner, take it from me, here I am. Sam answers. He shoves himself through the crowd and says to Emma, here I am, it's Harry's partner that they have, here they wanted to take my life because I took Harry's part yesterday; then George goes over to Emma, the crowd goes together and speaks together on a quiet; then Emma speaks to George. Emma speaks. I dare ye cowards to lay a hand on me. The first man makes a move shall never live to make another; then they all stand back, he puts his revolvers back into his belt again; then Emma comes in and speaks to George on a quiet; then James calls Nellie over to him and (James speaks) George says in a mad voice, I dare ye cowards to kill me. Then the crowd rushes up to George madly. Just then Emma comes running in between them and Emma speaks. Then for right the crowd leans back and the curtain goes down.

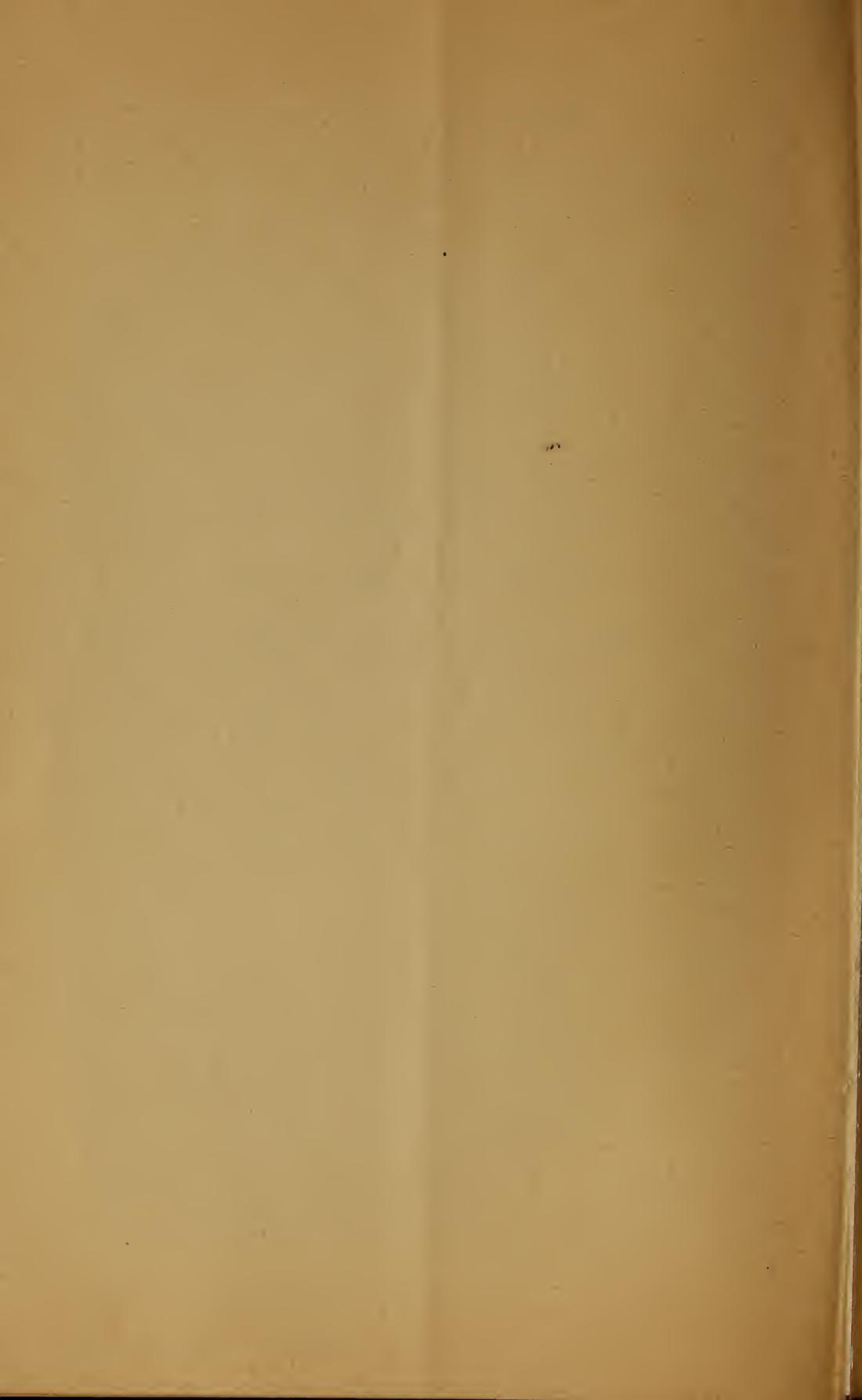


SECOND ACT—ONE EYED SAM.

Sam comes out with a false beard on and says to himself, there he is I would like to grab him if I could, but I'll go over and speak to him; he dont know who I am. That's where I have got the advantage of of him. He goes over, taps him on the shoulder and says, How do you do, sir. George answers. Could you tell me where captain Brown lives around here. George answers. I am a perfect stranger around this place myself. Let us take a walk and see how this place looks. George answers. Makes a queer look and says, Where did you come from? George answers. He throws off his mask and says in a mad voice, it is a lie, now I have got you where I want you, I suppose you are the man who took Harry Gold's part yesterday. George answers. Who is going to stop him if he wants her? George answers. He looks back and sees the crowd come, then says to George in a loud voice, Stop, here he comes with his crowd, then George comes back about three steps, then the crowd comes in, Sam says to James, there is that crowd that was taking Harry Gold's part. George answers. He, here comes some one up the road; hide him; then they all stand in front of him. Then Emma comes in and speaks. Emma answers.

SECOND ACT—JAMES SARAGE.

James says to Emma, oh nothing, we are going to have some fun with a coward we caught here. He was trying to have some fun with us, but now we will have some fun with him. Emma answers. I don't know his name. Emma answers. You cannot see him now. Emma answers. Yes, that's him. Well, boys, what will we do with him; they think for a few moments. Nellie answers. Well, what is it Nellie? Nellie answers. He says in a mad voice, what do you mean by telling us to take our time? Do you mean for us not to kill him? Peter answers. But we must kill him; boys keep an eye on him until I come back, then James goes in, then the crowd speaks together on a quiet for a few moments, then James comes in and says, now boys, hand him ready for to tie, then they all make a grab at George. Then George makes a jerk from them and pulls out one of his left side revolvers and says. George speaks. Oh come here Nellie. She goes over to him. He says, will you do me a favor? If you succeed I will never forget you as long as I live. Nellie answers. Do you see that coward standing over there? Nellie answers. I want you to go over and sneak his revolver out of his belt and give it to me. Nellie answers. I want to take the cartridges out and then you can place it back again. Nellie answers. James says in a mad voice, remember, mind what you said, stick to your promises. Nellie answers. Now you can return it back to its place again. He gives Nellie the revolver she goes over and places it back to its place again, then she goes out. Then Emma shakes hands with George and goes out. Then Peter sneaks out of the crowd and tells Emma that they have stolen the cartridges out of one of his revolvers, then George stands there sad when James says, now you have been talking long enough, this is your last chance for your life. Then they make a grab at George. James pulls out his knife. Then George pulls out his left side revolver and speaks. George speaks.



SECOND ACT—MISS EMMA WELLSWORTH.

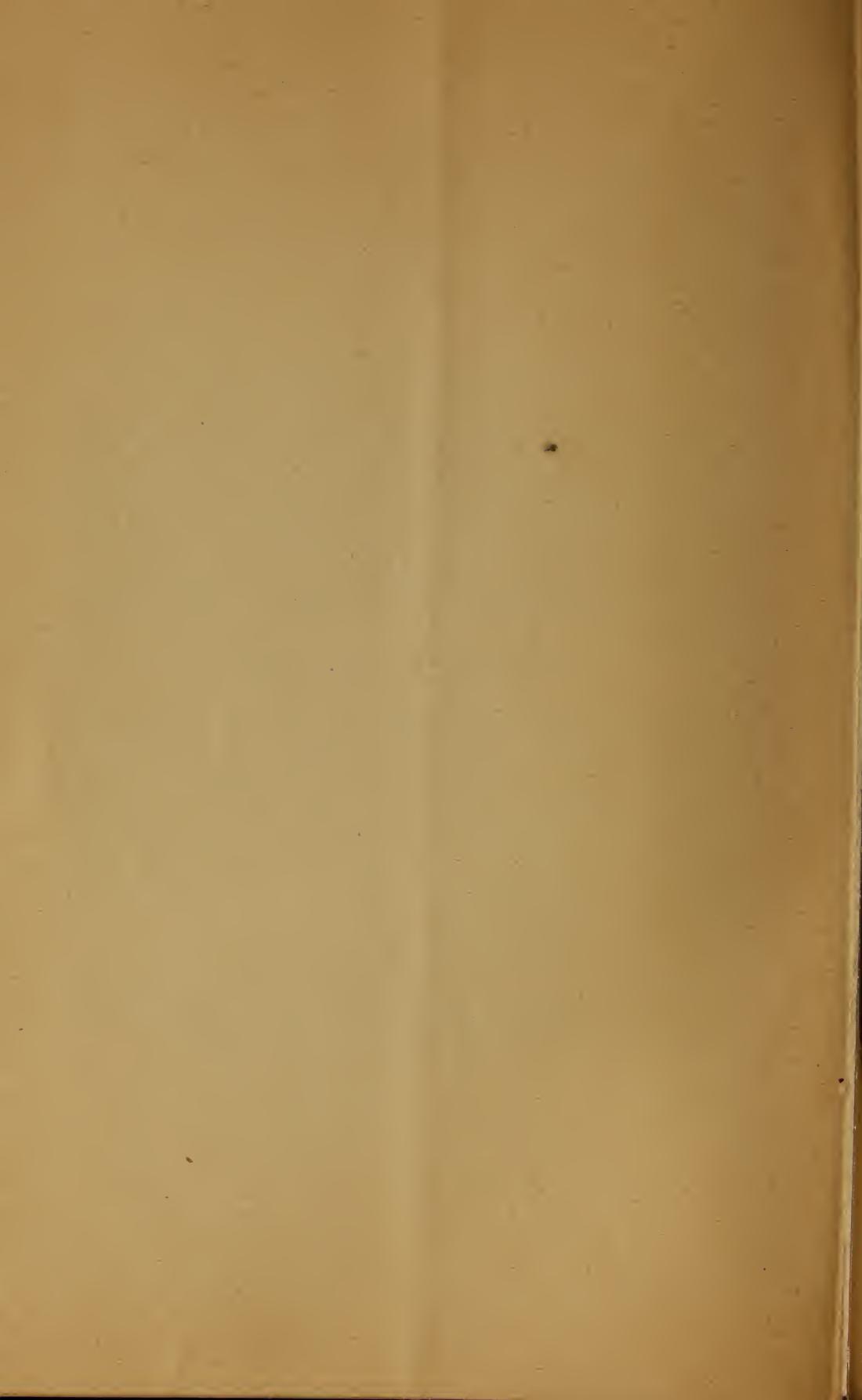
Emma comes in and says in a frightened voice, What does all this mean, this crowd around here? James answers. What a man, who is he, where is he, and what is his name? James answers. Emma says in a mad voice, that is a lie, where have ye got him hid? Let me see him. James answers. But I must see where he is and take a look at his face. Perhaps I know him, may be its Harry or his partner. George answers. They would not kill you if I could only find Harry. I'll go and see if I can't. Then Emma goes out, then the crowd surrounds him again, then Nellie comes in and speaks. That is false. George answers.

SECOND ACT---MISS NELLIE CARSON.

Nellie comes in and says in a happy voice, Say James, is that the coward that wanted to take your life. James answers. Well boys, I have got a good idea. James answers. Makes a laugh and says, let us kill him at once. Peter answers. I'll do anything for you. James answers. Yes, I do. James answers. What will you do with it? James answers. She says in an angry voice, oh no, I cannot do that. James answers. Nellie thinks over it for a few moments then says, well I'll do so and here I go. Then she goes over, sneaks it out of his belt and goes over to him and says, Here it is Then he takes the cartridges out and James speaks.

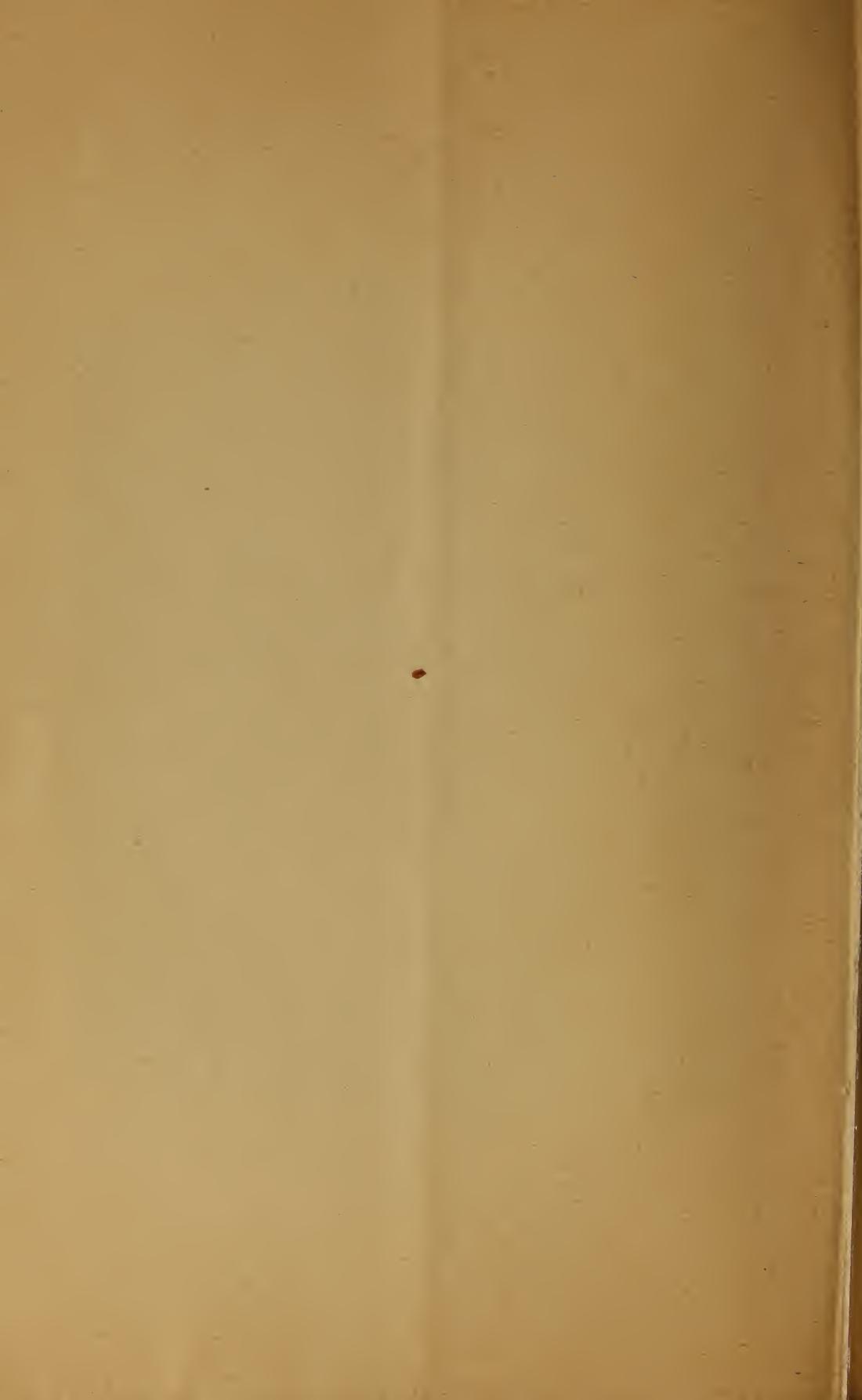
SECOND ACT—PETER KRAUT.

He steps out of the crowd and says, what is your hurry, take your time. James answers. Oh no, ye can do as ye like, but I don't like to see no innocent man killed for nothing. James answers.



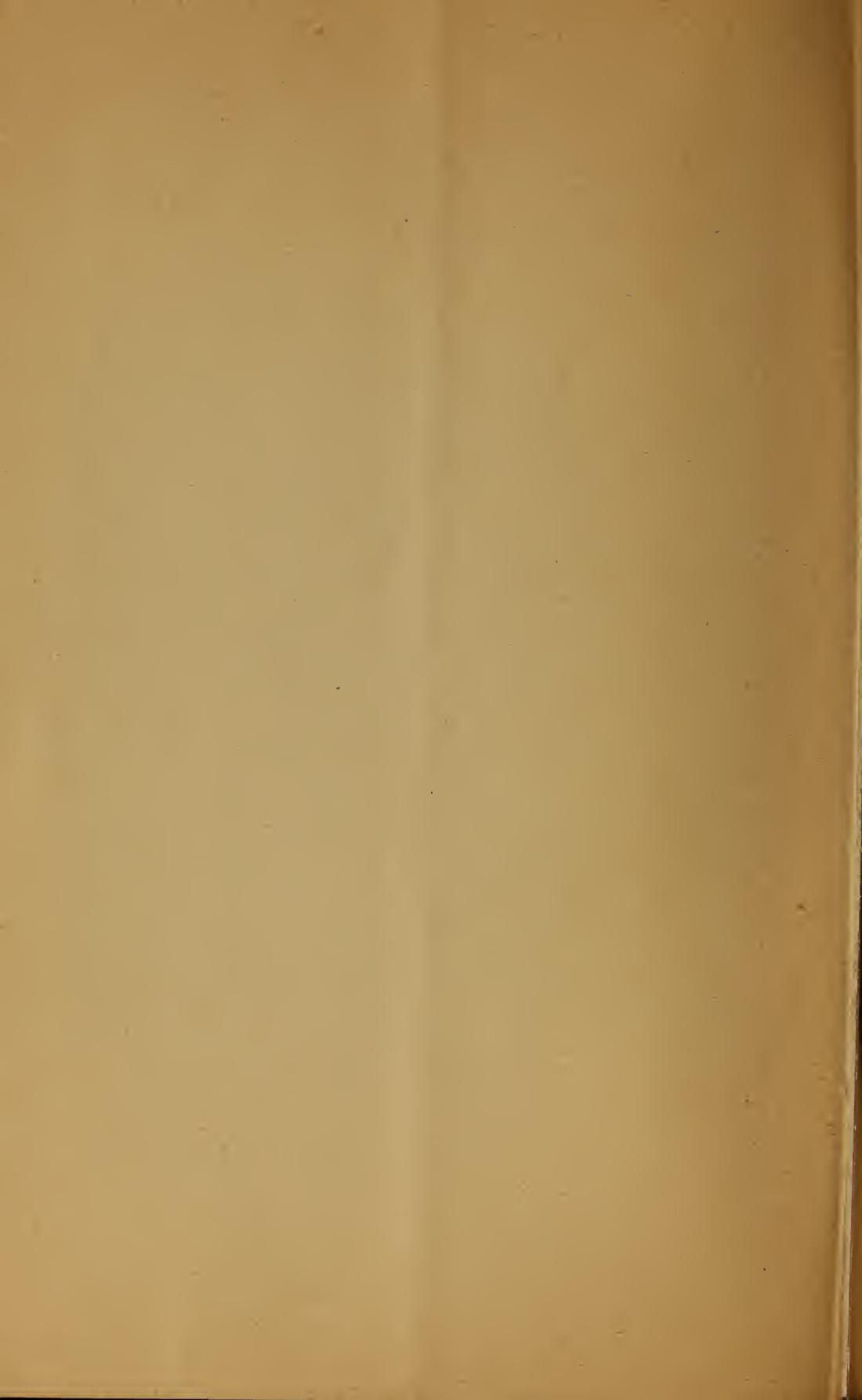
THIRD ACT—HARRY GOLD.

As soon as the curtain goes up Harry's tied up against a tree ; he be's jerking around, tries to get loose, then says to himself in a angry voice, No use trying, I cannot get loose ; they have got me tied up so tight that there is no hopes of me getting loose. Can God Almighty see that them cowards should take an innocent man's life like me ; then the crowd comes in. While they are walking in James says to the boys. James speaks. Harry says in a mad voice, yes ye cowards have got me now. If ye want to take my life, take it now, don't leave me suffer so long. James answers. Harry says to himself in a angry voice, will I give her to them or will I not. Then he thinks for a few moments and says in an angry voice, if I only had a friend in this world that would help me through, then he stops for a little while, looks around and says, here comes some one up the road, now perhaps God sent him to help me through, then hangs his head down, then the music starts to play a low tune, then Emma comes out of one side and Nellie comes out of the other. Nellie passes, Emma looks around at her madly and goes in. Then Emma stands in the middle of the stage, looks sad, and speaks to herself, Emma speaks. Harry gets frightened and says, why is that you Emma, Emma answers. Do you remember that man who was trying to take you away from me. Emma answers. That man and his crowd tied me here and are going to kill me because I wouldn't give you to them. Emma answers. Harry shakes his head and says, no you can't. Emma answers. Harry thinks for a few seconds, then says, yes you can, Emma. Emma answers. Now you go home as quick as you can and get my belt of revolvers and my knife ; they are laying on the mantle, and when you come back if the crowd is here you sneak in back of the tree, put the belt of revolvers around me and cut the rope, and be sure that no one will see you, and then you go away. Now go and dont waste one second. Emma answers. Looks up and says, thank God I am saved at last. Then James comes in by himself and says. James speaks. Yes I did, I would be willing to give her to ye, but she will not go. James answers. Harry says in a sad voice before ye take her away from me, better ye take me away from her, James answers. Stand back cowards in our power. Then the crowd leans back ; the curtain goes down.



THIRD ACT—JAMES SARAGE.

James comes walking out with his crowd. James looks at Harry, laughs, and says, Well he can't get loose this time, can he boys? They all say, oh no. Then James says, Well boys what will we do with him now; if we aint got one we have got the other. Harry answers. Well I will ask you one question. I want you to give me your sweetheart with your good will, if not your life will be gone inside of this very day. We will give you one more chance to think over it. We are going away for a little while: give us your answer when we come back. Then James says to the boys, come boys; then the crowd goes out; then Harry is in by himself. Harry speaks. James says, well have you made up your mind to give me her. Harry speaks. But she must come whether she wants to or not. Harry answers. Then we'll do as you say, we will take you away from her; then he calls his crowd and says, come in boys; they come in. George is in the crowd disguised, and Peter is out of the crowd when they are in. James says to them, well boys, I will give ye all one chance to think what we will do with him. Then they all get in a line, George is the last one in the line, near Harry. Then James says, well Sam, you are first. Sam says, hang him; second, scald him; third, shoot him; fourth, stab him. Then James says to George, well what is your answer, well speak; he don't speak; James says, what do you mean by giving us no answer. George answers. But you must say something. George answers. If it is anything in our line I'll do so. George answers. What, not to kill, we must kill him. If we don't kill him we will kill you. Then the crowd rushes up to Harry madly, James pulls out his knife. George answers. James says in a mad voice, who are you, tell me. George answers. James looks over to Harry and sees him untied then he says in a mad voice; what, untied? George answers. If I would know who untied him I would take their life instead of his. George answers.

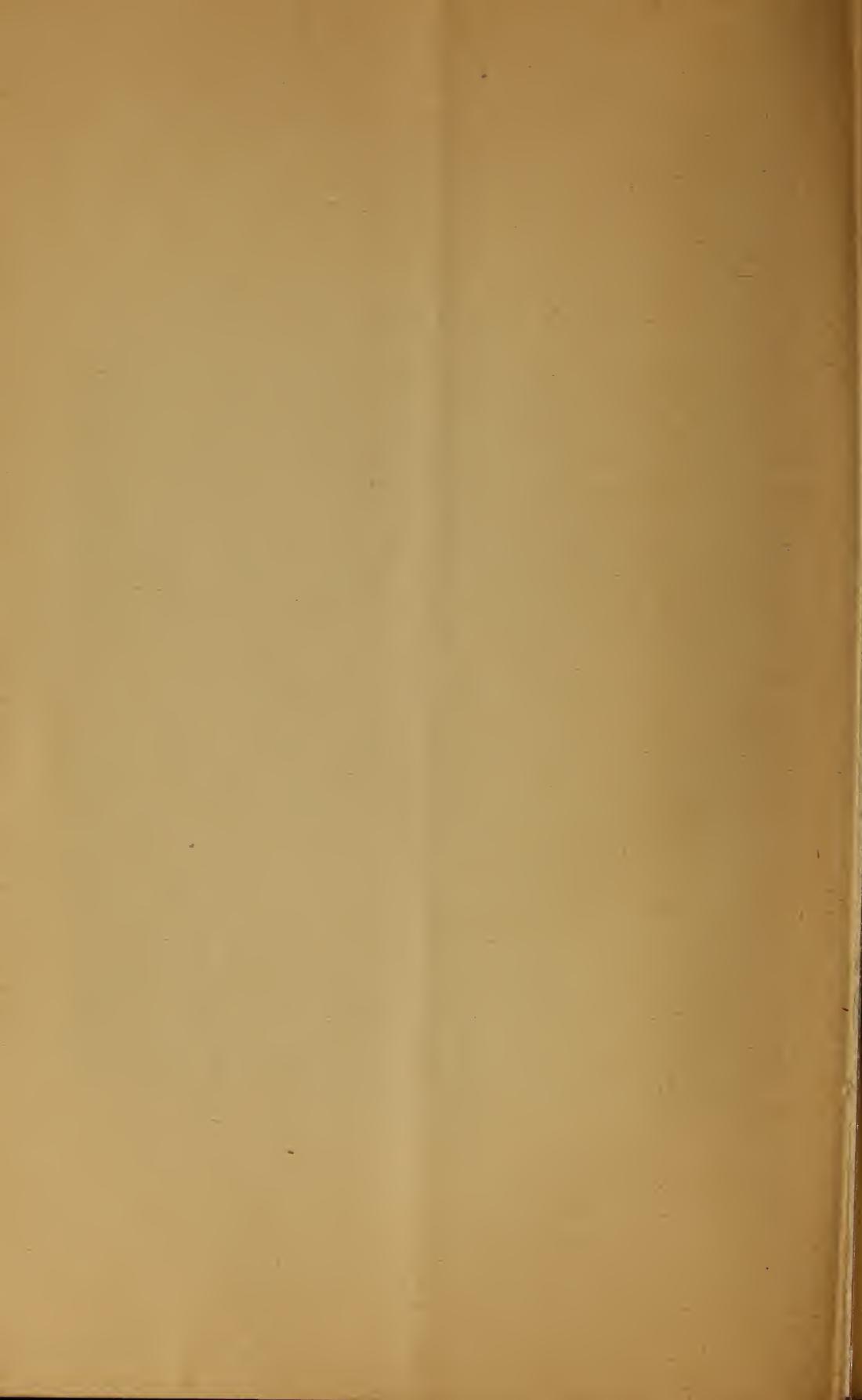


THIRD ACT—MISS EMMA WELLSWORTH.

Emma says, I wonder where Harry is keeping himself all this day. I was hunting around for him all afternoon and can't find him. Something must have happened again. I can't waste no time, I have got to find him. Emma turns around, walks a few steps, sees a man tied up against a tree, she gets frightened and says, What is that, a man tied up to a tree. I wonder who he is, I'll have to see. She goes over, lifts up his head, looks at his face and says, Why is that you Harry, she pushes him and says, speak, speak. Then the music stops. Harry answers. Yes that's me, who tied you here. Harry answers. Yes I do. Harry answers. She shakes her head and says, is that so, well can I do anything for you. Harry answers. Can't I do nothing for you Harry. Harry answers. Well what is it, tell me quick. Harry answers. Harry I will do that for you if it's to cost my life, so nere I go; then Emma goes out.

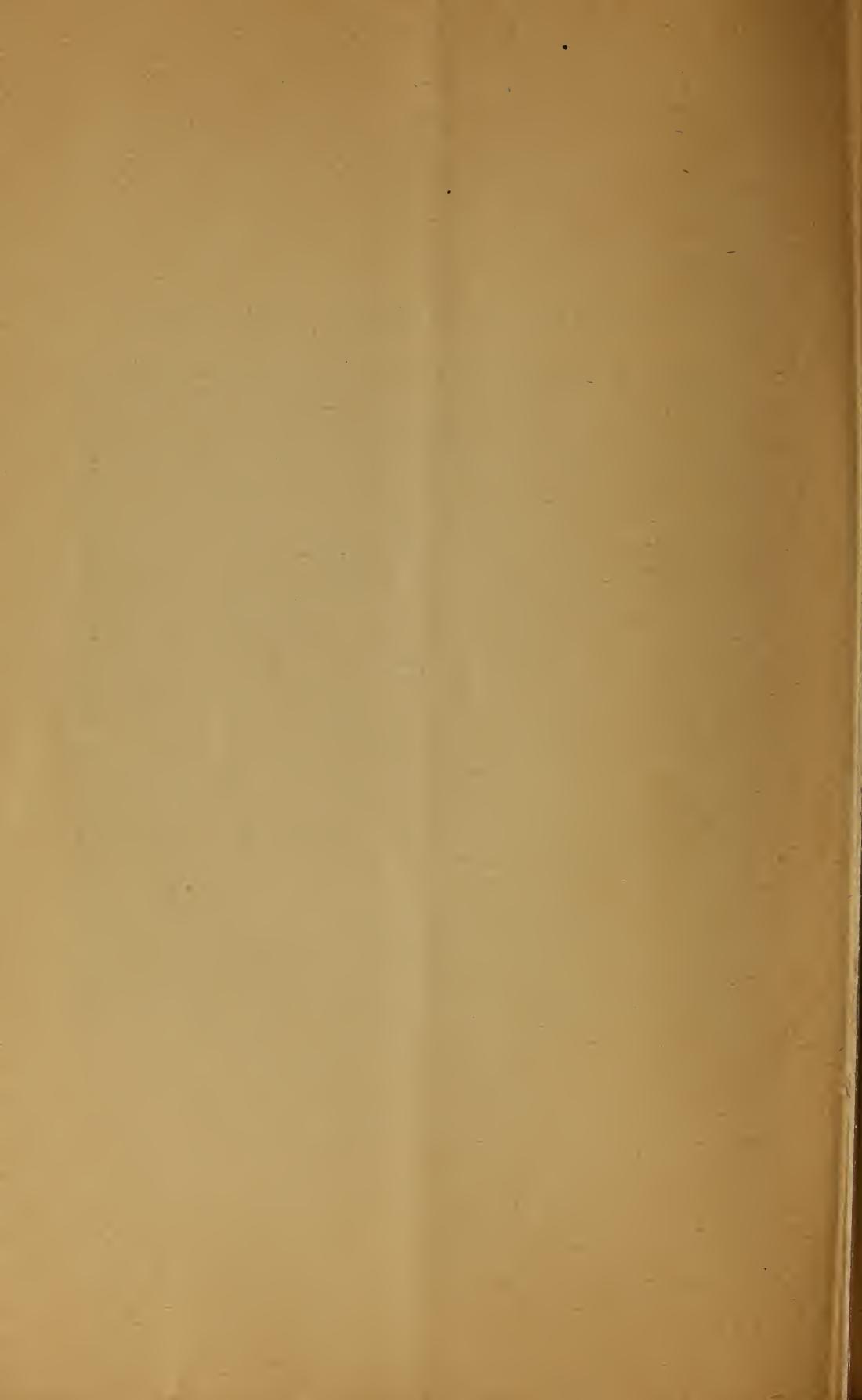
THIRD ACT—GEORGE WOODWARD.

George says, There is answers enough without mine. James answers. If you promise to do as I say, then I'll give you an answer. James answers. Then I'll give you an answer not to kill him. James answers. While George is speaking this question, Emma comes out sneaks behind the tree where Harry is tied to and puts the belt of revolvers around him, and cuts the rope, then she goes in again and the crowd looks at George, when George pulls out his two revolvers, and says, in a mad voice, stand back the idea of ye wanting to kill a man with his hands and feet tied. It's bad enough to kill a man without tying him. Untie his hands and feet and then kill him if ye can. James answers. While George is speaking that question he puts back his revolvers in his belt again. George pulls off his mask and says, I am a partner of his. James answers. Yes, untied. James answers. It was I that untied him, there. I dare ye to take my life. Then the crowd pulls out their knives and rushes up to Harry and George madly. Then Harry and George pulls out their revolvers. Then Harry speaks.



FOURTH ACT—FIRST SCENE—JAMES SARAGE.

As soon as the curtain goes up James and his crowd is in the room, sitting at the table playing cards. They play for a few moments, then they all stop, then James says to the crowd, Well boys we have got what we was after at last; we had some hard trouble getting her, but still we succeeded. Sam answers. James makes a laugh and says, well that is a foolish question to ask me what I am going to do with her. Now what do you suppose I am going to do with her. Sam answers. Well if you don't know I'll tell you. I am going to make her become my wife. Then the crowd laughs over it. Sam answers. Yes that's so. Sam answers. Well I suppose she is, well I guess we better go down and see how she is behaving herself, perhaps she is screaming and hollering again, the same as last night. Well boys, come let us go and see; they all got up and went out; then the band plays a low tune. George comes out; as soon as he is out, ready to speak, the band stops. George speaks. James makes a laugh and says, well I hope so. Sam answers. James thinks for a while, then says, well Sam I havent got no money with me now, but I'll tell you what I'll do, I'll leave ye be the owner of her until I pay ye the amount. Well are ye satisfied. Sam answers. James holds up his hand, with the key and says, here is the key, the owner shall have it. Then he goes to hand it to Sam. George comes out of the cupboard and grabs the key out of James' hand. George speaks. What do you mean by grabbing the key out of my hand? George answers. Then who is the owner. George throws off his mask and, George speaks. James says in a mad voice, now if you don't give us the key we will lynch you this very moment; then they all make a grab at George. George speaks. I'll tell ye what we will do, we'll get an ax and go down and break the door in, and get her out. Now we want to hurry up and get there before him, now let us get at work; then they go out and the scene changes.

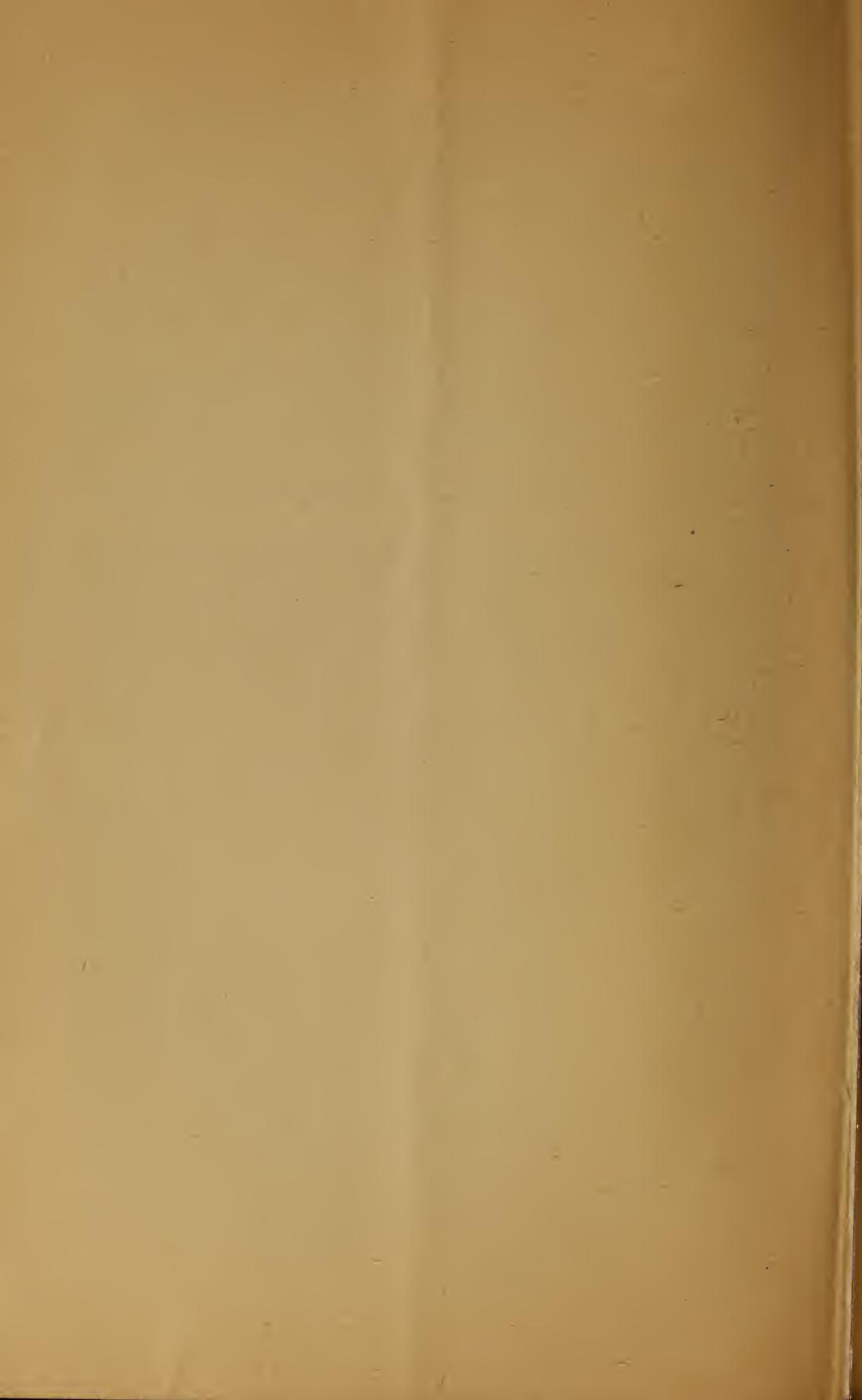


FOURTH ACT—FIRST SCENE—ONE EYED SAM.

Well James, you have got her now, what are you going to do with her. James answers. Well I don't know. James answers. Why is that so. James answers. I tell you what, she is going to make a nice little wife, ha' James. James answers. Comes in and says, this is a very nice evening, aint it boys. They all say, yes it is Sam; then they all go in the room, sits down at the table; then Sam says, Well James I see she is behaving herself first rate, I guess she will forget about Harry after while. James answers. Well James, all our work is done now, you have got her, can you settle with us now. James answers. Well, that will do first rate, wouldn't it boys. They all say, yes. Then James puts his hand in his pocket and gets the key out, for the room she is in, then says. James speaks. As soon as George is out, Sam says to the boys, now boys, what will we do, how will we get her. James answers.

FOURTH ACT—FIRST SCENE—GEORGE WOODWARD.

George comes out, looks around, and says, what's this, have I lost Harry, now what will I do. He stops for a few moments, then says, well I'll scout around for her myself until I find her and if I see the coward that stole her away from Harry, I would kill him on the very spot. I wouldn't give him one chance to speak to me; then looks around, sees a house, gets frightened, and says, what a house, I thought I saw a crowd of men come out of there a few moments ago, as I was coming up the road. I'll have to go over and see who lives in there. He goes over, knocks at the door, then says, I don't believe there is any one lives in here; then opens the door and says, what the door open, then looks around in the back of him and goes in, looks all around the room, then says; why there must be some one lives here; then looks in the drawer of the table, sees a letter lying in there, picks it up and reads it; then says, what's this, one of James Sarage's letters, now I have found his place at last; I thought I saw a crowd of men going out of here, but I wasn't quite sure; I guess I'll put this letter back again. Then he puts it back and says, now I must go and find Harry and tell him about it; then goes over to the door, opens it, looks down the road, sees a crowd of men coming up, then says in a scared voice, here comes the crowd where can I hide; then goes in the room again and says, where in the world can I hide, walks around the room, sees a door, opens it and says, what's this, opens it, then says, what, a cupboard and empty, now this is my only chance to hide from them, and here I go; then goes in the cupboard and closes the door; then the crowd comes in; while they are walking in Sam says to the crowd. Sam speaks. Yes, the owner shall get it; then the crowd jumps up off their chairs and. James speaks. I mean just as you said, the owner shall have it, not I, that is the owner. James answers. Why Harry is the owner of it and I am his partner, I'll keep it until the owner received it. James answers. George pulls out his two revolvers and says; stand back ye are in my power; then they all lean back. George walks out backwards. They follow him until the end of the stage; then George goes out, then Sam says to the boys. James speaks.



FOURTH ACT—SECOND SCENE—HARRY GOLD.

As soon as the scene changes, Emma is locked in the house among the trees ; the band begins to play a low tune ; then Harry comes out. Then the band stops. Harry looks back and says to himself, what have I lost ; George now I am lost ; what will I do ; then thinks for a few moments ; then Emma cries out. Emma speaks. Harry turns around and says, what, didn't I hear a voice call ; walks up towards the house. Emma speaks. I wonder who she is, it seems to me I know that voice, I care not if I don't, then points to himself and says, It will be I to protect her and take her away from this cruel place and take her where she belongs ; then stands there sad with his head down for a few moments ; while he is standing there the crowd comes rushing in madly over to the house. James holds up the ax and strikes the door ; then Harry says to himself, what a knock ; looks around sees a crowd standing by the door ; Harry runs up in the crowd, shoves them away and says, what do you mean by striking the door with an ax. James answers. Harry holds up his hands and says, strike me instead of the door. James answers. They told me if I wouldn't leave this place they would strike me with the ax. George answers.

FOURTH ACT—SECOND SCENE—MISS EMMA WELLSWORTH.

Emma cries out and says, save me, save me ; then stops for a few moments. Harry speaks. Emma says in a sad voice, is there no one in this world to save me, to take me out of this cruel place : while she is speaking that question, Harry walks up close to the house where she is in, and listens ; as soon as she is through speaking Harry walks back again to the place where he was standing and, Harry speaks, They put me in there and have almost starved me to death because I refused to become his wife. I would rather have died in there than to become that cruel villain's wife ; while Emma is speaking that question Peter goes to one side. George answers. Shakes her head and says, yes that is the truth, do to him as you would want to be done by. George answers.



FOURTH ACT—SECOND SCENE—GEORGE WOODWARD.

George says in a mad voice, ye will not, I am here to protect him ; then the crowd leans back ; then George says to Harry, what where them villains going to do to you ; they all look at Harry and George then Harry speaks. George pulls the key out of his pocket and holds it up ; the crowd makes a run for it ; George pulls out one of his revolvers and says, stand back ; then George says to Harry, now the owner shall have it, then hands it to Harry ; then George says go and get her out and she will give us the result ; then Harry goes and opens the door and Emma comes out ; then George says to Emma, now tell us what them dreadful cowards have done to you all this time. Emma answers. He shakes his head and says, so is that what ye have done to her ; now we will take life for revenge : then George and Harry pulls out their revolvers and George says, now take that ye villains, then they shoot at once ; then the four falls down ; then James and Sam tries to get up ; then George and Harry says, take another ye cowards ; then they put their revolvers back into their belt ; then George sees Peter coming towards him ; then George says, what another, we'll kill him as the rest ; then at once he pulls his revolver out just then Peter speaks. Speak quick. Peter answers. Points out his hand and says, all right, now then, go ; then Peter goes in ; then George says, now ye can live happy together and remember it was I that saved your lives through and through ; then they both shake hands while he is saying the question ; then the curtain drops.

FOURTH ACT—SECOND SCENE—ONE EYED SAM.

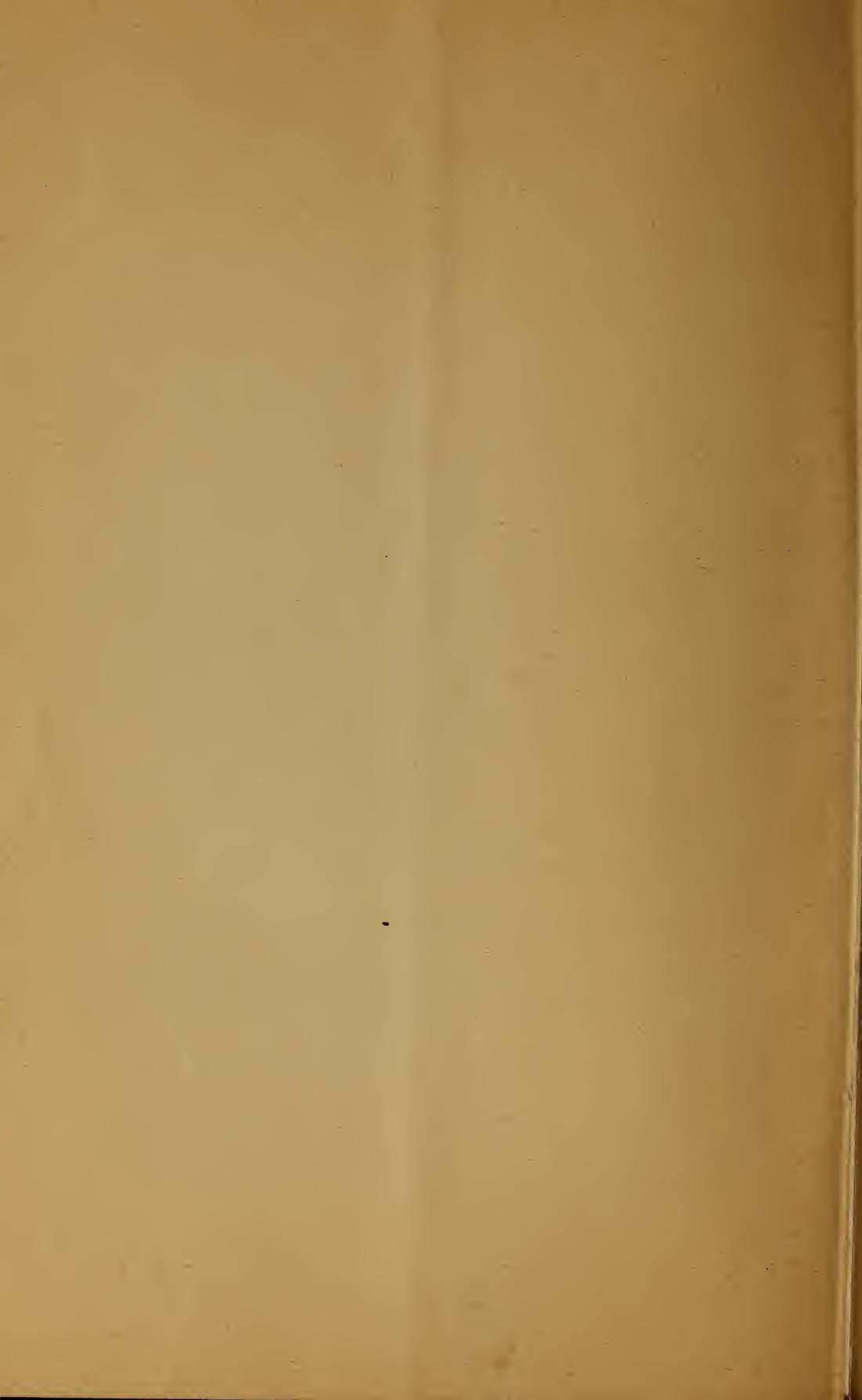
Sam says, strike it once more James ; then Harry steps up to the door and says in a mad voice. Harry speaks.

FOURTH ACT—SECOND SCENE—PETER KRAUT.

Peter holds up his hand and says, stop, one question I will ask you. George answers. It was I that have been taking her part all the time. Ask her yourself and see whether it's so. Emma makes a look at him and Emma speaks.

FOURTH ACT—SECOND SCENE—JAMES SARAGE.

James says, we have lost the key and we thought the best way to get in is to break the lock. Sam answers. James holds up his ax and says, madly, stand to aside or I'll do so. Just then George comes running in and speaks. George speaks.



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